

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Haddad for discussing the present Office Action with Applicants' representatives in an interview on July 26, 2006. The topics covered during the interview included the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), 35 U.S.C. § 112, and the objection to Replacement Figure 8. The remarks below more accurately reflect the substance of the interview.

Objections to the Specification

The Examiner objected to Replacement Figure 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 132 as adding new matter into the disclosure. As discussed in the interview, Applicants believe that Replacement Figure 8 does not introduce new matter but only represents a higher quality presentation of the same information as Original Figure 8. However, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicants cancel Replacement Figure 8.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that all objections to the specification be withdrawn.

Status of Claims

Claims 156-162 are now pending in the application. In the present Amendment, claims 1, 13, 22 and 153-155 have been canceled and new claims 156-162 have been added. Support for these new claims can be found throughout the specification and the originally filed claims. Applicants have not introduced any new matter by the amendments.

In order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have also canceled claims 2-10, 12, 15-19, 21, 27, 29-93, 95-105, 107-112, 114, 117, 118, 120, 125, 127-145, 147 and 148, all of which had previously been withdrawn by the Examiner. Moreover, claim 26, also

previously withdrawn by the Examiner, has been amended to recite all the limitations of claims 156-162.

Objections to the Claims

Claim 22 was objected to for failure to recite a verb after "said fragment a peptide." Claims 153 and 154 were objected to for the improper placement of a comma. Claims 22, 153 and 154 have been canceled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that all objections to the claims be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 1 and 13 have been canceled.

As discussed in the interview, new claims 156-162 are directed to specific regions of the $\alpha 11$ protein or heterodimers containing specific regions of the $\alpha 11$ protein. One skilled in the art, upon reading the teachings of the specification, could make and use the full breadth of the compositions recited in new claims 156-162 without undue experimentation. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 13 and 155 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gullberg *et al.* (Dev. Dyn. 204:57-65, 1995; IDS Ref. No. C2) as evidenced by Velling *et al.* (IDS Ref. No. C5). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections on the ground that Gullberg *et al.* does not necessarily and inevitably disclose the integrin subunit $\alpha 11$ recited in claims 1 and 155 nor a heterodimer comprising the integrin subunit $\alpha 11$ recited in claim 13.

However in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicants have canceled claims 1, 13 and 155. As discussed in the interview, new claims 156-162 recite specific regions of the $\alpha 11$ integrin subunit or heterodimers containing specific regions of the $\alpha 11$ protein that are not taught or suggested Gullberg *et al.* Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn.

Rejoinder

M.P.E.P. § 821.04 requires that nonelected inventions be considered for rejoinder when all claims directed to the elected invention are found allowable.

Specifically, M.P.E.P. § 821.04(b) states:

[I]f applicant elects a claim(s) directed to a product which is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder.

M.P.E.P. § 821.04(b).

In response to the Office issuing a restriction requirement dated July 13, 2004, Applicants elected product claims directed to the integrin subunit $\alpha 11$ and domains and fragments thereof. Claim 26, which was not elected, recites a method of producing the integrin subunit $\alpha 11$ and domains and fragments thereof. By this Amendment, claim 26 has been amended to contain all the limitations of product claims 156-162.

Should the Examiner determine that the claims 156-162 are allowable, Applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement between the elected product claims and the nonelected claim 26 be withdrawn and claim 26 be found allowable.

Conclusions

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Amendment and Response, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 408-4442.

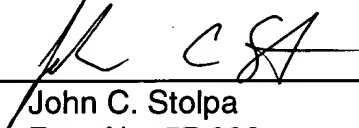
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 7, 2006

By: _____


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